

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 31, 2005

**1. ROLL CALL**

- 1. Present at Roll Call:** Acting Chair Michael Candela, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, James Walker, Tom Barrett, Stephen Lucas; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner David Wood.
- 2. Election of Officers**

CHAIR CANDELA NOMINATED JAMES WALKER AS CHAIR AND STEPHEN LUCAS AS VICE-CHAIR. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 27, 2004**
- 2. Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico - Shakespeare in the Park June 3, 2005 to August 21, 2005 - Cedar Grove Meadow and Picnic Area**

Commissioner Walker asked to removed this item from Consent Agenda.

- 3. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2005 Friday Night Concerts May 13, 2005 to September 30, 2005 - Children's Playground**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED ITEMS 1 AND 3 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

- 3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

- 1. Items removed From the Consent Agenda**

**Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico - Shakespeare in the Park June 3, 2005 to August 21, 2005 - Cedar Grove Meadow and Picnic Area**

Commissioner Walker determined this permit would not cause conflicts for other activity in the area. He also noted the problems listed on the evaluation from last year's permit and asked what will be done to make sure they do not occur again. Park Director Beardsley said some issues came up in the past and staff will meet with the applicant to talk about potential problems before the season begins.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**2. Review and Consideration of a Department of Water Resources Urban Streams Grant Proposal to Remove Non-Native Plant Material from Big Chico Creek, Little Chico Creek, and Lindo Channel**

Big Chico Creek Water Alliance has asked the City of Chico to co-sponsor a request for a competitive grant of \$300,000 from the Department of Water Resources Urban Streams Grant Program. If supported by BPPC, the request will go to City Council for approval.

A coalition of agencies will be involved in the work. Susan Strachan, Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, and Roger Cole, Streaminders, appeared to give information on the project and answer questions. A major goal is to remove non-native plants in Chico's urban streams. Little Chico Creek can pass one-half of its 100 year flood capacity so Arundo will be eradicated and some flood plains excavated on City property. Approximately 350 landowners will need to be contacted along the creek. They will be educated on the need to clear the waterway and asked for voluntary compliance. Roger Cole urged the City to make a plan for Little Chico Creek to attract other grant money or endowments.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO SUPPORT THE GRANT APPLICATION. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**3. Report on the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan Update**

Park Director Beardsley said the Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting of January 13 was well attended and friendly. The meetings will continue through July. Commissioners Mills, Barrett and Ober each need to appoint their representative soon.

**4. Status Reports on Capital Projects**

Urban Forester Boza said work on Humboldt Park restrooms will start next week and probably be completed by the end of March.

Work on the rifle range clean-up has progressed to where the Hooked On Fishing event, after a two-year absence, can be held the end of May. Preliminary work is finally done, and now we hope for good weather.

Bids for City Plaza renovation will go out in 3-4 weeks. The park will be closed all summer and work completed by November 1. Staff is working with DCBA to minimize impact on downtown. Electrical facilities will be installed in Children's Playground by April to accommodate use there during the summer.

Work on the irrigation and lighting project at One Mile began last week at Caper Acres. There will be eight circuits and each can be programed to work individually.

## **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Director's Report**

Park Director Beardsley asked commissioners to complete their requests for committee assignments and get to Chair Walker within two weeks.

An attached memo from ACA Barker addresses general rules regarding conflicts based on real property interest under the Political Reform Act. This update comes out every two years and Park Director Beardsley will answer any questions about it.

The Centennial exhibit opens at the museum this Friday night, a St. Patrick's Day dance is being planned for fund raising, and the committee would like to plant a centennial tree for Arbor Day.

Work is being done to remove privet and to landscape the Fourth Street entrance to Bidwell Park. New gravel will be put down in all of the parking lots this spring. Commissioner Mills asked for landscape clearing at the bike entrance between Alder and Sycamore. Commissioner Barrett would like a crosswalk painted for the Fourth Street entrance.

- 2. Urban Forester's Report**      received and filed
- 3. Monthly Reports**              received and filed
- 4. Incident Reports**              received and filed
- 5. Correspondence**

A letter from Susan Mason, Friends of Bidwell Park, asking for further information on use of chemicals within Bidwell Park. It was referred to the Stream/Preservation Committee. Commissioner Mills said he would like to see some of the chemical reports that come regularly from the golf course.

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**           None

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. to the next regular meeting of February 28, 2005.

SIGN IN SHEET

1. Susan Strachan Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance
2. Roger Cole Streamminders

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2005

**1. ROLL CALL**

**1. Present at Roll Call:**

Chair James Walker, Commissioners David Woods, Russell Mills, Stephen Lucas, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober and Michael Candela; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, ACA Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**

Susan Mason said this centennial year is the best opportunity for the public to learn about Bidwell Park. There are a lot of activities planned, including special events and community service. Look at the web page for more information.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 31, 2005**

Commissioner Candela removed this item from the consent agenda.

**2. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” Event, Saturday, May 21, 2005 - Horseshoe Lake**

Commissioner Ober removed this item from the consent agenda.

**3. Approved Permit and Application for Public Use from Cyrle Productions for the Artisans Faire May 7 and 8, 2005 - Children’s Playground**

**4. Approve Permit and Application for Public Use from Butte Environmental Council’s Endangered Species Faire May 7, 2005 - Cedar Grove**

Commissioner Mills removed this item from the consent agenda.

**5. Application and Permit for Park Use of Wildwood Park for the 2005 Season from Butte United Soccer League, Chico Central Little League, and Chico Cal Soccer Club for use until November 26, 2005**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 3 AND 5 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

a. **Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 31, 2005**

Commissioner Candela corrected page 1 and page 4 of the minutes

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED.  
COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

b. **Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” Event, Saturday, May 21, 2005 - Horseshoe Lake**

Commissioner Ober asked about recommendation #8 to “aggressively promote the use of satellite parking facilities”. Commissioner Mills said the parking lot will not be completed so BPPC should ask applicants to provide a written parking plan. Shuttles from Wildwood, busing and car pools are possibilities.

Commissioner Barrett wants to ban the use of lead sinkers. Discussion of a permanent ban will be put on the next agenda. From the public, applicant Bob Evans said using just shot sinkers would be fine.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION WITH AMENDMENTS 1) PROHIBIT LEAD SINKERS AND 2) PROVIDE A PARKING PLAN.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

c. **Approve Permit and Application for Public Use from Butte Environmental Council’s Endangered Species Faire May 7, 2005 - Cedar Grove**

Commissioner Mills asked about recommendation #6 regarding transportation. Many people ride bikes to the event and there was a charge for valet parking. That should be provided for no charge to encourage alternative transportation.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION.  
COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**2. Review and Consideration of Proposed Improvements at Chico Creek Nature Center.**

Director Tom Haithcock showed drawings of the plans for the new exhibit/classroom facility. He said they have 70% of the funding for the first phase and are preparing packets suggesting several options to help raise the rest needed. Commissioners made comments and approved the design. Chair Walker put it on the agenda of the Master Management Committee.

**3. Receive and Discuss Report on the Kiwanis Community Observatory**  
No action recommended.

Kris Koenig gave the annual report. Two telescope pads were built this year and a path laid to them by Boy Scouts. The planetarium should be completed for dedication on July 23, 2005 as part of the centennial celebration. There have been 38,000 visitors since opening who have come from all over the world. Docents have volunteered almost 2,000 hours and there were two donations to repair vandalism. Chico Kiwanis has become consultants to Rotary Club of Cameron Park, who want to build a facility like this one.

From the public, Susan Mason addressed light pollution and thinks BPPC should take the lead on a night-sky policy. She would like more lighting in Wildwood Park directed to the ground.

**4. Review and Consideration of Trail Work Days for Spring 2005**

Because spring is a good time to work on trails, a new schedule will ask volunteers to work every other weekend from April 9 to June 4 under direction of regular staff assigned to the project.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULE AS RECOMMENDED. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**5. Review and Comment on Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigated Monitoring Program for the Baroni Park Master Plan (ER 04-07, MAJNC13052347)** No action required.

Commissioner Mills said Item M (transportation) was not properly addressed. The park is locked in by housing so there is little public access. As there are few easements, even people who live in the neighborhood will have to travel to get into it. Park Director Beardsley agreed this is not a typical park and access is restricted. There is parking on the street, but not on site.



Commissioner Barrett said it is important to maintain the edges and not let plants from neighbor's lots encroach on the park.

Commissioner Walker asked about the jurisdiction mentioned in a letter from the Army Corp of Engineers. Park Director Beardsley said the two acres of wet lands are under their jurisdiction. It is being left for drainage and activities are put into the other five acres.

Commissioner Lucas likes the plan but leaving acres undeveloped does not take pressure off Bidwell Park usage. He would like to use neighborhood parks for more activity and leave Bidwell more natural.

The public may send comments to Patrick Murphy, Sr. Planner at PO Box 3420. before March 7, 2005. Commissioner Mills' comment will be sent to Council for consideration at their meeting of March 15.

## **6. Discussion of Upper Bidwell Park Viewshed**

Chair Walker would like to initiate a discussion on the problem of more houses being built along the Southwest side of the canyon and the potential for many on the north side in the future. They detract from the park experience.

Commissioner Mills said the Planning/Park ad hoc committee has talked about it. Approval of these recent houses was given years ago and cannot be changed so now be aggressive to protect the view shed for the future. Commissioner Lucas said much of the land is in unincorporated areas so we must go beyond the City jurisdiction. Commissioner Ober said to keep the conversation going and get public input to Commission.

From the public, Greg Payne reminded us that council bought the upper canyon ten years ago and it was controversial. The best solution now is to buy more. Randy Abbott said it is right to discuss the issue and read from Master Management Plan about influencing park management policies. Maybe planting native trees would mitigate the problem. Kris Koenig recommends a good neighbor policy. The park belongs to everyone and the owner and developers are intelligent people. Lon Glazner thinks the park will be hemmed in at some point and that won't be significant to new park users.

Park Director Beardsley will ask Planning staff to talk to BPPC on the issue in the near future.

**7. Report on the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan Update**

Park Director Beardsley reported there were over 80 people at the last meeting. The next focus will be on site specific areas, beginning with Horseshoe Lake and Cedar Grove. We are still on track for a draft plan by August.

From the public, Randy Abbott requested the CAC meetings be taped and videos are now available at the park office.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report**

Committees have been formed and now will set up standard times for meetings. Traditionally Commission has spring and fall tours of the Park. April 16 will be the spring tour, starting at Horseshoe Lake and walking up to the viewshed. Light standards are going up at One Mile. They have variable refractors and are dark-sky approved.

The Centennial Committee has plans for a fund raiser at Women's Center on March 17. On March 7 ten valley oaks, the first of 100, will be planted in Annie's Glen for Arbor Day. A film festival will be showing films made in Bidwell Park in July.

Read more at [www.bidwellpark.org](http://www.bidwellpark.org).

The Bike Advisory Committee set up priority projects for construction and identified projects for bike needs. A path through Annie's Glenn and under Mangrove is near the top. Also a bridge over Little Chico Creek into Twentieth Street park, over Cal Trans right-of-way, is favored.

Park Watch training is set for April 7 and 9, 2005.

**2. Urban Forester's Report**

Chico met the criteria to be named for the Tree City USA award. It will be presented tomorrow at the Council meeting.

**3. Monthly Reports**                      Received and filed.

**4. Incident Reports**                      Received and filed

**5. Correspondence**

A letter from Susan Mason regarding invasive plant removal was referred to the Preservation/Stream Committee. A letter was received from Lisa Billingsley

regarding Highland Neighborhood Park. Staff will initiate a meeting with the Highland neighborhood.

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Barrett said a big pine fell over in the middle of the disc golf course and has been sawed on a couple of the limbs. That work was not done by staff. Commissioner Woods said someone rolled large boulders into the middle of the lower trail. He will check with the maintenance crew.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 to the next regular meeting of March 28, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair James Walker, Commissioners David Woods, Russell Mills, Stephen Lucas, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober and Michael Candela; Staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, ACA Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 28, 2005**

Commissioner Mills removed the minutes from Consent Agenda.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**              None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 28, 2005**

Commissioner Mills corrected page 2 of the minutes.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED.  
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**2. Review and Discussion of the Bidwell Park Viewshed**

New homes in Canyon Oaks subdivision on the south canyon rim, with more under construction, are visible from many parts of the Park and have effected the view for park users. Potential construction further east on the south canyon rim and on the north side could also negatively effect the open viewshed.

Kim Seidler, Planning Director, gave a history of issues involved in planning the current subdivision. Canyon Oaks was proposed to have private homes and a golf course. A citizen's referendum to oppose the plans was passed but later thrown out on a

technicality. Since then each phase has been presented as a separate identity requiring its own EIR. Only parcel nine remains to be built.

Originally a wide swath of open land along the South canyon rim kept homes out of view, but accommodating a plant or concern resulted in moving the road and putting the houses closer to the rim. Since then small, individual mistakes have led to the accumulative mistake that results in homes being visible.

Homes may be less obvious once they are completed and painted in earth tones. Perhaps a tree planting program could provide a screen. The Planning Department has to balance the impact of botanical issues and of viewshed. They are now more sensitive to viewshed and ask for sophisticated visual analysis about how homes will look from different points.

BPPC will be informed as Phase Nine is being developed. Commissioner Wood would like to contact the County Board of Supervisors to discuss future development on county land along the rim. Further discussion was referred to the Master Management Plan Committee.

**3. Review and Consideration of Fiscal Year 2005-26 Park Related Community Organization Funding**

Chico Creek Nature Center applied for \$60,960 in City funding for personnel costs. BPPC recommendations will be provided to the Finance Committee during its review of application on 04/14/05. Tom Haithcock, Director, answered questions about the request form.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR FUNDING.  
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**4. Review and Consideration of an Appeal from the Chico Cat Coalition to be Considered for Funding in Fiscal Year 2005-06**

The Chico Cat Coalition requests Council consider the application of funding that was submitted after the stated deadline, and has written a letter of explanation. BPPC may recommend Council accept the appeal.

From the Cat Coalition, Mary Schreiber said this group is one of the most significant contributors to the Park. Mary Beth Way said they are working to convince people not to dump cats in the park and the numbers are going down. It is critical to keep the

program going so the situation will not revert to what it was.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL ACCEPT THE LATE APPLICATION AND APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR \$10,000. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**5. Review and Discussion of Lead Fishing Sinkers in Bidwell Park**

For environmental and public health reasons, Commissioner Barrett would like a total ban on lead in the Park and other waterways under BPPC jurisdiction. Such a change would require that CMC 12R's be amended. It may be difficult to enforce, but it would become a known policy.

Commissioner Mills asked the City Attorney to write the appropriate language. Chair Walker referred the matter to the Stream/Preservation Committee for discussion.

**6. Review and Discussion of Installing "Porch Swings" in Bidwell Park**

Commissioner Ober said he had seen such swings in Charleston NC. His intention is not necessarily to support this particular idea but to clarify how to approach the idea of improvements, or restriction thereof, at One Mile.

Park Director Beardsley said it is fun to talk about new ideas. Commissioners and public can suggest an item for the agenda and it can be sent on to a committee for more review. Commissioner Lucas asked this be referred to the Master Management Plan Committee for review and discussion.

**7. Review and Consideration of Alternate Meeting Locations and Meeting Times**

Commissioners discussed moving the meeting place to Conference Room 1 and/or setting the starting time at 6 :30 p.m. It was agreed to stay in the Council Chambers and begin at 7:00.

From the public, Randy Abbott thinks it is easier to hear discussions in the Chambers and good recording is important. He would like all rooms to have improved recording ability, even for committee meetings.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report**

April 16 is the date for the annual Commission spring tour. It is timely to see the work at Horseshoe Lake, the trail work, and check the viewshed from the Park. The lake will be accessible by mid-May. The Plaza project bid has been held up to the first of April. Artisans Fair will still at the Plaza on April 6 - 8.

From the Centennial Committee, the St Patrick's day fund raiser was successful. There is still a need for volunteers. Check it all out at [bidwellpark.org](http://bidwellpark.org).

**2. Urban Forester's Report**

Urban Forester Boza was absent but his report is filed. The Arbor Day activities were a success. The "CTree" program runs from March 14 through May 30, 2005.

**3. Monthly Reports** An extensive report filed on spring work.

**4. Incident Reports** Received and filed.

**5. Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Barrett asked what is happening with encroachments in Lindo Channel. Park Director Beardsley said the issue is on the list to get done.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**8.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of April 25, 2005.

**SIGN IN SHEET FOR MARCH 28, 2005**

- 1. Randy Abbott 1151 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- 2. Tom Haithcock 641 West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

3. Lori Beth Way            1191 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street
4. Mary Schreiber            30 Philadelphia Drive, suite B



BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair James Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Tom Barrett, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, ACA Alicia M. Rock and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 28, 2005**

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

**2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 16, 2005**

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Candela.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

**a. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 28, 2005**

Commissioner Mills and Chair Walker suggested changes of wording in the discussion of Bidwell Park viewshed.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 29, 2005 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**b. Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 16, 2005**

Commissioner Candela said it should be noted that Commissioners discussed proposals for possible closures of Upper Park Road, which lead to that item being placed on tonight's agenda.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2005

AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**2. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of April 11, 2005**

**a. Review and Discussion of Request to Use Airsoft Guns on City Property - Teichert Pond**

The Committee received a letter asking that airsoft guns be approved for use on park lands and particularly at Teichert Ponds. After discussion, the Committee recommended the request not be granted. The applicants have been using some private land near Teichert Pond and will contact the owners to request use.

**b. Review and Discussion of the Bidwell Park Viewshed**

Commissioners agreed to send the draft proposal back to Master Management Plan Committee on the May 2, 2005 meeting to consider more criteria, add a preamble, and draft a letter to the County of Butte. The results will come back to the BPPC regular meeting of May 31, 2005, then to the Ad Hoc meeting of June 13, 2005, and back to BPPC regular meeting of June 27, 2005 with a final draft.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED FOR CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL AND TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ABOVE TIME LINE.  
COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**c. Review and Discussion of Installing “Porch Swings” in Bidwell Park**

This issue was tabled for the time being.

**3. Review and Discussion of Upper Park Road Beyond Parking Area E - Bidwell Park**

The current policy is that Upper Park Road is closed on Sunday and Monday and closed at Diversion Dam during wet weather.

Commissioner Mills has written a proposal for such alternative transportation and will bring it to staff to take to EDAW and Citizen’s Advisory Committee for their recommendation. BPPC will discuss any proposals as part of the Master Management Plan Update.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**1. Director's Report**

- Restrooms are being installed at Humboldt Park.
- Horseshoe Lake is lowered, contractors are working there, and it is off limits to the public. There will be a lot of activity in the park in the next six weeks and there may be traffic congestion at times.
- Park Plaza project bid opens May 10, 2005.
- Irrigation and Lighting at One Mile Recreation Area to be completed by June 1, 2005.
- A Butte Community College class is working at Baroni Park.

**2. Urban Forester's Report**

PG&E is trimming trees in the Park. They will take out a damaged Cottonwood and some Catalpa trees as an invasive plant

**3. Monthly Reports**                      Received and filed.

**4. Incident Reports**                      Received and filed

**5. Correspondence**                      None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Chair Walker saw a volunteer trail crew doing a very good job.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 to the next regular meeting of May 31, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MAY 31, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair James Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Tom Barrett, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, David Wood and Russell Mills; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, ACA Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**

Susan Mason said Friends of Bidwell Park will complete removal of Bladder Senna invasive plants this week. Volunteers gave 965 hours to that job. Upward Bound students will be working in Bidwell Park on June 4, 2005. Other students will be working later in June and July. Jim Brobeck wants to confirm he can initiate a conversation later in the meeting.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 25, 2005**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2 Report from the Preservation/Stream Committee Meeting of May 16, 2005  
(Commissioners Barrett, Chair, Ober and Wood)**

**a. Review and discussion of lead fishing sinkers in Bidwell Park and other locations**

Committee recommends developing a policy of banning lead sinkers at

Horseshoe Lake and all waters used for fishing in Chico. If approved by Council, it would be included in the CMC 12R's.

Chair Walker asked some questions regarding toxic levels and health concerns. Answers indicated there is no safe level of lead for humans or animals and steel sinkers are a ready alternative that decompose and are not toxic.

Enforcement of a ban would likely be done by Rangers when a stop for some other issue allows a follow up on use of lead.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO RECOMMEND A BAN OF LEAD FISHING SINKERS IN ALL WATERS USED FOR FISHING IN CHICO. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**b. Review and discussion of chemical use in Bidwell Park**

Committee recommends lessees in Bidwell Park annually provide information regarding pesticides and fertilizers they use outdoors. Staff recently presented information on City use of reportable chemicals since 1993. Commissioner Mills would like to expand chemical reporting to include any chemical activities in areas under BPPC oversight and Park Department responsibility.

From the public, Jim Brobeck said he and a child were in the park while a contractor was applying a toxic substance to the grass and wearing protective gear. He thinks the public should have advanced warning and clear knowledge of what is being used. There was not a sign posted to warn the public. Park Director Beardsley said there is a policy that the area should have been posted.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO REQUIRE LEASE HOLDERS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON ANY CHEMICAL USE, BOTH REPORTABLE AND UNREPORTABLE, ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION.

After further discussion of what substances may be included in unreportable chemicals, the motion and second were withdrawn until Commission has more information. Assistant City Attorney Rock will provide a paragraph from the airport leases that might help define the scope of chemicals to be reported.

The issue of chemical use in Bidwell Park will be a future agenda. The subject of chemical reporting from contractors outside of Bidwell Park will also be discussed by the Committee.

**3. Report from the Art Committee Meeting of May 18, 2005 (Commissioners Mills, Candela and Walker)**

**Review and consideration of art in City Plaza**

Chair Walker said there is much potential for art in City Plaza. The City Art Commission would like to work with BPPC and bring in their ideas in June.

**4. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of May 19, 2005 (Commissioners Candela, Chair, Ober and Lucas)**

**a. Review and discussion of request from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) to install new playground equipment - Hooker Oak Recreation Area**

Steve Visconti, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, presented a request to replace old playground equipment at Hooker Oak with newer, safer equipment. CARD would like City to extend electricity and add a sewer line to the area before new restrooms are added.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO SUPPORT THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSED EQUIPMENT. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**b. Review and discussion of the Bidwell Park viewshed**

Commission reviewed and modified the preliminary Upper Bidwell Park Protection Proposal, which goes back to Master Management and Ad Hoc Planning Committees. The final proposal will come to BPPC June meeting.

**c. Review and consider changes to the Chico Municipal Code (CMC) regarding unaccompanied children - Sycamore Pool**

Committee considered changing the CMC to require children under 7 years of age be accompanied by a person 14 years of age or older in designated areas around Sycamore Pool. The Master Management Plan Committee will further discuss age requirements in the rest of the Park.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE A REQUIREMENT THAT CHILDREN UNDER 7 YEARS OF AGE BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PERSON 14 YEARS OF AGE OR

OLDER IN DESIGNATED AREAS AROUND SYCAMORE POOL. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. AYES: WALKER, OBER, MILLS, CANDELA, WOOD, BARRETT. NOES: LUCAS.

**d. Review and discussion of proposed improvements at Chico Creek Nature Center**

Tom Haithcock, Center Director, showed plans for the proposed improvements.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**1. Director's Report**

- ▶ Humboldt restroom is in and will have an art component
- ▶ After delay from weather, the rifle range clean up is proceeding. Lead is now being gathered from the hillside in preparation to being put under the parking lot
- ▶ Bids for City Plaza renovation open this Friday
- ▶ Water will be changed over to new supply this week at One Mile
- ▶ CAC discussed Upper Park Road and will have proposals this fall
- ▶ Centennial Committee has a golf tournament in July, re-enactment of Annie's park deed signing, and a film series showing *Gone With the Wind*, *Red Badge of Courage*, and *Robin Hood* (all filmed in the Park).
- ▶ Council authorized preparation for a landscape district for Baroni Park.

**2. Urban Forester's Report**

Street trees are being trimmed downtown in the morning and sign/signal work done in the afternoon. Sycamore Pool is up and running. City has picked up about five acres for landscape maintenance districts.

**3. Monthly Reports**                      Received and filed.

**4. Incident Reports**                      Received and filed

**5. Correspondence**

A letter from Darin Mora asked about providing a pizza concessions in Bidwell Park and Park Director Beardsley responded that it would have to go out for bid.

**4. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

In a recent CAC meeting, everyone was given a dot to use in voting on decisions regarding disc golf. Commissioner Wood said a report on the meeting is not what was being voted on. Park Director Beardsley will check the record and clarify it.

Commissioner Mills submitted a paper to CAC on enhanced public transportation in Upper Park. It will be included in next month's BPPC packet.

Commissioner Barrett witnessed lots of kids drinking and driving off road at Bear Hole.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 to the next regular meeting of June 27, 2005.



BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair James Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Tom Barrett, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, David Wood and Russell Mills; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, ACA Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**

Susan Mason, Friends of Bidwell Park, said there were 200 Upward Bound students working at One Mile and 20 are still working every afternoon. Two picnic sites were adopted for invasive plant removal, some new trees were donated for Annie's Glen and 688 volunteer hours have been given at Annie's Glen. The annual Scour and Devour, a clean up in the park done by CSUC freshman, is set for October 1, 2005.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 30, 2005**

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

**2. Consideration of Application and Permit for Park Use from the American Judo and Jujitsu Federation to Teach Martial Arts Classes - September 24 and 25, 2005 - Five Mile Recreation Area**

**3. Consider Application and Permit from Balls Edge Concerts for 2005 Concert Series for Various Tuesday Night Concerts, Theater and Comedy - Children's Playground**

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

**4. Application and Permit Request for the 2005 National Yo-Yo Contest, Friday September 30, 2005 (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and Saturday, October 1, 2005 (9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.) - Children's Playground**

**5. Request from Earl and Susan Nance for Garden Permit in Lindo Channel**

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Barrett.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 2 AND 4 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

a. **Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 31, 2005**

Commissioner Mills corrected the motion regarding 12R.04.270.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

b. **Consider Application and Permit from Balls Edge Concerts for 2005 Concert Series for Various Tuesday Night Concerts, Theater and Comedy - Children's Playground**

Commissioner Mills asked to clarify the time of the actual event within the hours requested. The music is from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and the rest is set-up and take down.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

c. **Request from Earl and Susan Nance for Garden Permit in Lindo Channel**

Commissioner Barrett does not agree with garden permits encroaching into Lindo Channel and is concerned about too much watering.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. AYES: WALKER, CANDELA, WOOD, MILLS, LUCAS. NOES: BARRETT AND OBER.

2. **Review and Consideration of Request from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) to Modify the Existing Lease Agreement for the Hooker Oak Recreation Area to Meet Funding Requirements Under the Safe**

**Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Act  
(Proposition 12)**

Steve Visconti, CARD Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, said that the existing lease for Hooker Oak Recreation Area would need to be extended for another two years in order to meet the funding requirement under Proposition 12.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO EXTEND THE INITIAL LEASE TO 2015.  
COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**3. Report From the Ad Hoc Planning Committee Meeting of June 13, 2005**

**Review and discussion of the Bidwell Park viewshed**

Committee met with representatives from the Planning Commission to discuss the draft Proposed Bidwell Park Protection Proposal. BPPC would have no ability to change permits, but could make comments to the owner. Proposal would strike “ministerial (staff issued) permits” and refer to “discretionary permits”. Commissioner Lucas would like to get this document on the books as a policy statement and deal with detailed issues in later meetings.

From the public:

Kelly Meyer spoke of prior approvals for Canyon Oaks in 1986 and that homes were not to be seen from Bidwell Park. He is concerned the City misses these things and wants to be sure mitigation is truly enforced. Todd Hall asked about the next steps to implement the proposal. Randy Abbott hopes the City Council will see the strength in what the BPPC is doing as the Park is worth protecting.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO APPROVE THE REVISED DRAFT BIDWELL PARK PROTECTION PROPOSAL . COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director’s Report**

- Humboldt Park restrooms will open in two weeks
- Containment cell at Rifle Range clean-up is completed and will be covered by Mid-August
- Lighting and irrigation at One Mile is 90% complete
- Final meeting for CAC is in August. BPPC will then review a draft of points debated in the past months.
- A \$500 reward is offered for information on vandalism at the disc golf course.
- Council approved a budget for Volunteer Coordinator position

- Centennial Committee will be very busy in July with re-enactment of the deed signing and a film festival, but there will be more activity in the fall to close the year.

2. **Monthly Reports** received and filed

3. **Incident Reports** received and filed

Commissioner Mills noticed there were more than usual number of incidents in Caper Acres. Park Director Beardsley said there is no known reason, but the new lighting may help.

4. **Correspondence** none

## 6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Park Director Beardsley said the hazardous chemical language discussed last month is not yet prepared so will be on agenda next month.

Jerry O'Neil is glad to see BPPC taking action on the viewshed and would like City to use eminent domain to replace the houses wrongly placed.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. to the regular meeting of July 25, 2005

### SIGN-IN SHEET FOR JULY 2005

- |    |              |                                 |
|----|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Susan Mason  | PO Box 3036                     |
| 2. | Todd Hall    | 1150 Kentfield Road             |
| 3. | Randy Abbott | 1151 E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street |
| 4. | Jerry O'Neil | 2595 Cactus Avenue              |

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JULY 25, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Acting Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, and David Wood; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, ACA Alicia M. rock, and Administrative secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Chair James Walker and Commissioner Russell Mills.

**2. Public Comments**

Randy Abbott, for Friends of Bidwell Park, submitted a document stating their main concerns about the disc golf course in Upper Park.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of June 27, 2005**

**2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 31, 2005**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Review and Consideration of Request From Craig Sanders, LandWorks, to discuss Alignment of South Rim Trail in the Vicinity of Private Property Referred to as Parcel 9 of Canyon Oaks**

About 2,400 feet of the South Rim Trail crosses over private land. The land owner does not have a problem with that but would prefer it take a route closer to the boundary. He and local bike riders have recently constructed a new trail on his property that needs to be connected to the existing trail on park land at the east end.

Park Director Beardsley displayed a map of the area being discussed which shows the Park boundary, existing trails, potential trails, and the conceptual alignment of 500 feet of trail needed for the connection.

Craig Sanders asked that the resolution of trail use be regarded as an entirely separate issue from any proposed future development of the parcel and that it not have to wait for completion of the Master Management Plan.

ACA Rock said there is an application at the City regarding development of the parcel and the trail issue cannot be separated from a pending project. Commission may focus only on the conceptual alignment as they would like to have it.

From the public:

Ed Holiman said there is talk the Jeep Road would be taken out of existence and leave no way to access South Rim Trail. Park Director Beardsley said there is erosion there but the current corridor may be rehabilitated.

Lon Grazner recommended looking for an answer urgently and reminded the public we are using private property.

Gregg Payne said we are lucky to have such a good neighbor. He is glad to have this offer to keep access to that part of the Park.

Bill Brouhard, property owner, said he saw a need to act on this issue when the City posted a sign on his land directing hikers to the existing trail. He would like to work in a spirit of cooperation to determine the trail route and complete the connection.

Randy Abbott can appreciate concern about any long term implications for access to the land. Would the owner consider selling the trespass land?

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO SEND THIS REQUEST TO THE TRAIL/SAFETY COMMITTEE WITH CONCEPTUAL SUPPORT FOR THE CONNECTOR TRAIL. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**3. Report from the Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of July 11, 2005**

**a. Report and Discussion of Request from North Valley Productions Regarding the Display of Promotions Prior to Performances at Cedar Grove**

North Valley Productions would like to post a banner at Cedar Grove two weeks before an event, not the current 24 hours allowed.. Park Director Beardsley suggested staff erect two permanent posts to display 3x5 signs that would define the size allowed. Signs could stay up for the run of the event.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE INSTALLATION OF A CEDAR GROVE ENTRANCE SIGN, A KIOSK AT THE ENTRANCE TO DISPLAY ANNOUNCEMENTS, A DISPLAY BOARD ON THE SOUTH PARK DRIVE RESTROOMS, AND TO ALLOW BANNERS AT CEDAR GROVE ONLY FOR UP TO 48 HOURS PRIOR TO A SPECIAL EVENT. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTI9N WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**b. Review and Discussion of Request from Richard Elsom Regarding Conditions of Use for the Bidwell Bowl**

Mr. Elsom wants to do a series of events in Children's Playground and Bidwell Bowl using amplified sound. There are potential problems with sound impact on neighbors.

Commissioners requested more specific information be presented and this be placed on the August agenda.

**c. Review and Discussion of Requiring a Minimum Age Limit for Children to be Alone in Bidwell Park**

Committee continued this item to a future meeting.

**d. Review and Consideration of Street Naming in Bidwell Park**

Staff has learned that naming "Milky Way" road to the observatory would be a name conflict and potential problem for 911 calls.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE "OBSERVATORY WAY" INSTEAD OF "MILKY WAY". COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**4. Report from the Art Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of July 13, 2005**

**Review and consideration of art in City Plaza**

Art Commission recommended using \$80,000 for art in City Plaza. Ad Hoc committee recommends a mural on the restroom wall featuring a local, historical object such as a trolley. Artist Elizabeth Devereaux suggests a project mid-block on Broadway which includes sitting areas with chess tables.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE TWO ART PROJECTS. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

## 5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

### 1. Director's Report

- ! a pre-construction press conference for Plaza Park will be held next week. Construction should start on August 22.
- ! the packett includes a letter from Robert S. Lane, professor of medical entomology at UC Berkeley for Commissioner information. If there is no objections, staff will grant his request to live-trap 15 western squirrels and some ticks in the Park to study Lyme disease.
- ! congratulations to the Centennial Committee for a great community event in the Park last Saturday. Commissioner Barrett presented Park Department with several proclamations.
- ! thank you to The Discovery Shoppe, who donated \$2,500 for a fountain and improvements in Caper Acres. The high/low fountain is completed and is the only one made of this design.

2. **Urban Forester's Report** Received and filed

3. **Monthly Report** Received and filed.

4. **Incident Reports** Received and filed.

### 5. Correspondence

A letter from Melissa Carhart describing recurring trouble for her children and herself with dogs off leash in Lower Park.

## ! BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Lon Glazner asked for an extension of time for written comments on the disc golf course plans. The design is very good for ecological concerns. They will be put on the web site soon.

## ! ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of August 29, 2005.



SIGN-IN SHEET FOR JULY 25, 2005

1. Randy Abbott Chico
2. Craig Sanders Chico
3. Paul Lehm Chico
4. Lon Glazner Chico
5. Gregg Payne Chico
6. Bill Brouhard Chico
7. Steven Schuman 1747 Broadway, Chico

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 29, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present at roll call: Chair James Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, Russell Mills, and David Wood: staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Tom Barrett

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 25, 2005**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0-2 CHAIR WALKER AND COMMISSIONER MILLS ABSTAINED.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed From the Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Review and Consideration of a Request from the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Rancheria to Gather Various Plant Material from Bidwell Park for Traditional Cultural Regalia, Basket Weaving and Other Uses**

Arlene Ward, Cultural Coordinator for Mechoopda Indian Tribe, requests permission to gather various plant material from Bidwell Park in revival of traditional plant uses. It would provide a step in rebuilding the cultural ties to the land, ceremonies, and traditional life ways as well as teach lost skills to Tribal members. Harvesting would be done seasonally in a manner that benefits regeneration.

Park Director Beardsley said the current policy prohibits removing plant life from the Park. In anticipating that this request will be for annual removal, and requests from others may follow, he recommends establishment of guidelines to clarify methods, locations and intensity of removal. Interested public must be made aware of any protocol developed.

Staff recommends making an interim policy for six to eight months while gathering information for a long term program.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR UP TO ONE YEAR; REQUIRE THE TRIBE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH STAFF; AND DEVELOP A LONG-TERM POLICY. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

**3. Review and Consideration of Application and Permit Request from Richard L. Elsom, Celebration of People, Inc.**

**a. Use Children's Playground October 14, 21, 28 and November 11, 2005**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF 4.3a AND 4.3Bb, MINUS THE EXPERIMENTAL SOUND ISSUE, WITH SUGGESTED GUIDELINES. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

**b. Use Bidwell Bowl October 14, 21, 28 and November 11, 2005**

The above applications for a permit are for the same event. However, applicant requests exceptions to current policies on amplified sound at Bidwell Bowl. The current limit is for 20 minutes of sound before 9:00 p.m. at any one event.

Mr. Elsom would like to conduct two forty-minute tests to evaluate the best set up for amplification at different presentations. The person operating the system can make a lot of difference in how it is heard and new technology is available to mitigate many problems .

Neighbors were notified and some appeared to offer suggestions and opinions.

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL APPROVE TWO 40-MINUTE TESTS ON OCTOBER 28 , OR A LATER DATE IF NECESSARY, WITHIN GUIDELINES OF 12R's. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-2. YES: OBER, WALKER, LUCAS AND WOOD. NO: CANDELA AND MILLS.

Results of the testing will come back to the Master Plan Committee and BPPC before going to Council.

**4. Report from the Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of August 22, 2005**

**Review and Consideration of a Re-alignment of a Portion of the South Rim Trail East of the Private Property Referred to as Parcel 9 of Canyon Oaks**

Committee recommends establishing a new trail connection from the intersection of Guardian Trail to a new trail alignment on Parcel 9. At the time of development on Parcel 9, approximately eight acres may be deeded to the park and other trails would than be discussed for the area.

From the public, Lon Glazer said we celebrate Annie Bidwell donating land for the Park. It is a big deal that Bill Brouhard would be the next to do that.

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE EIR FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONNECTING TRAIL. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. Review and Consideration of Minimum Age for Children to be in Bidwell Park**

In June, BPPC agreed that children under the age of seven years need supervision by someone 14 or older at Sycamore Pool There has been no problem in the rest of the Park and current policy seems to be acceptable.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO EXTEND THE POLICY FOR SYCAMORE POOL THROUGHOUT THE PARK. NO SECOND.

Absent further action, the current policy stays as is.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report**

- Humboldt Neighborhood Park restrooms are in full operation.
- Rifle Range clean-up is coming together
- Demolition has begun in the City Plaza renovation.
- One Mile Recreation Area irrigation is done and beautiful.
- Chico Redevelopment Agency report from 05-06 budget includes various park projects
- Master Management Plan will distribute CD's of the draft document to CAC at the 07-09-05 meeting.
- Meetings are set for discussion of Ceres/Highland and Baroni Neighborhood Parks.

- City received \$4,000 restitution for vandalism of gate at Upper Park
- New signs are in at Cedar Grove

**Urban Forester Report**

- Cedar Grove electrical system has been upgraded
- Society of Arborist will host certification exams at CARD center. Outside tree work will be done.
- The new General Services Department will come into existence this Friday, with Dennis Beardsley as Director. Park will become part of the new department.
- A chestnut tree in City Plaza had splits on the limbs and information is coming to determine if it needs to be taken down.

**Monthly Reports** Accepted and filed

**Incident Reports** Accepted and filed.

**Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Susan Mason said most of the recent 700 volunteer hours from Friends of Bidwell Park were from Upward Bound Students. The Centennial Committee has something going on weekly through September and October.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 to the next regular meeting of September 26, 2005.

SIGN-IN SHEET  
AUGUST 29, 2005

	Name	Address
1.	Rebekah Fures	125 Mission Ranch Blvd 95926
2.	Arlene Ward	125 Mission Ranch Blvd
3.	Randy Abbott	
4.	Bob Aranguren	315 Legion Avenue
5.	Saul W. Henson	4 San Ramon Drive 95971
6.	Christine Aranguren	315 Legion Ave
7.	Jjon D. Mohr	1489 Manzanita
8.	Richard Elsom	
9.	Gregg Payne	1343 Laburnam
10.	Jann Reed	347 Legion Ave
11.	Daniel C. Oliver	193 E. First Avenue #6
12.	Lee Simpson	279 E. Sacramento Ave
13.	Bill Brouhard	2550 Lakewest Drive
14.	Lon Glazner	1119 Valley Oak Drive
15.	Kris Koenig	1025 Rushmore Ave
16.	Susan Mason	Box 3036

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 29, 2005**

**2. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the CSU, Chico Department of Kinesiology for Cross Country 5K, 10K, and Fun Run November 12, 2005 - Upper Bidwell Park**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Presentation and Review of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Park Director Beardsley reported that this process started one year ago with hiring of the EDAW consulting team, a notice of preparation, meetings of Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), and now this 324-page draft of the plan. Next would be meetings with the consultants, public and commissioners. Culmination would be presentation of EIR and proposed plan to City Council.

Petra Unger, of EDAW, gave a slide presentation and overview of the draft which includes names of the update team, components, technical appendices, sources of

information and goals. Both policies and implementation plans are included in the draft.

Commissioners and public agreed there is a need for several meetings to understand and discuss an important document of this size and scope. They discussed meeting dates and how to cover material in each. Meetings, of no more than 2.5 hours, are set for October 3, 12, 18, and 26, November 7 for the postponed October regular meeting, and tentatively November 14. A disc golf specialist attended the October 12 meeting.

Interested participants are encouraged to write out questions or comments and submit them for staff and consultants consideration before the meeting.

From the public:

Kathleen Woodard, of the Equestrian Association, said it is important each of you hear both pros and cons at each meeting.

Arlene Ward, of the Mechoopda Tribe, asked for a tribal consultation meeting, or a closed session, to discuss her particular concerns. General Services Director Beardsley said Commissioners cannot have a closed session, but Council could later.

Randy Abbott, Friends of Bidwell Park, said he wrote out comments for two weeks and is not done; he would like to extend the time to comment.

Kris Koenig asked to receive an historical record of all actions taken by BPPC or Council regarding disc golf before the October 13 meeting.

O. J. McMillan said review starts now for those not in CAC and they need more time to study this important document.

MyrnaVandenplas did not have time for CAC and would like a lot more time to consider this now.

Lon Glazner said to handle this relatively soon as people on CAC gradually dropped out and enthusiasm does not carry on for an extended period of time.

Susan Mason said this is very different from the 1990 plan, and more complex. It takes more than one reading to understand and needs time.

Chair Walker thanked those who served on CAC and said it is now Commissioners' turn to begin work. Written comments from the public go to EDAW or staff. BPPC will respond to specific comments at the meetings.

### **3. Report from the Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of September 12, 2005**

#### **Review and Discussion of the Bidwell Park Viewshed**

BPPC approved a proposed policy relating to the viewshed for Bidwell Park at the



July 2005 regular meeting. After review by City Attorney and Planning Director, and changes made by the Committee, the final version is presented tonight.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE POLICY AS WRITTEN. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

## **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Director's Report**

- Rifle Range clean up is 90% completed. The fence will be removed by November 1 and the official trails connected.
- Demolition is completed in the City Plaza. Forms for the bandstand and restrooms will appear soon.
- Ceres Park had an excellent meeting and set the next meeting to share design concepts
- The Centennial celebration is not over yet. Huel Houser's DVD on the Park was shown on KIXE and is for sale for \$25.
- City Council referred the question of sound at Bidwell Bowl to the Internal Affairs Committee for recommendations.
- An information survey, done by VIP and Park Watch on Labor Day, was successful and will be done again.

**2. Monthly Reports** Accepted and filed.

**3. Incident Reports** Accepted and filed

**4. Correspondence** None

## **6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Mills said the evaluation of activities on July 4 shows a problem every year. It might help to ask vendors to leave after unloading.

Kris Koenig said NASA listed our observatory on their web site as outstanding. It is being duplicated at Cameron Park. There are three telescopes set up on Sunday afternoons for sun watching.

Jerry Olio said City should have been checking the foundations of homes on the ridge to protect viewshed and the houses should be condemned.

Myrna Vandenplas said someone should be held responsible for making sure those houses are not seen. She wants a change and not have to accept it as is.

Lon Glazner said a botanical study caused some houses to be moved closer to the edge. The developer met requirements of the Planning Department so houses are legal. Elected officials are accountable.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. to the next regular adjourned meeting of October 3, 2005.

SIGN-IN SHEET  
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

	NAME	ADDRESS
1.	Kathleen Woodard	2787 Grape Way Chico 95973
2.	Arlene Ward	125 Mission Ranch Blvd
3.	Randy Abbott	10 <sup>th</sup> Street
4.	Kris Koenig	1025 Rushmore Avenue
5.	O.J. McMillan	2040 Vallombrosa Ave
6.	Myrna Vandenplas	382 East 4 <sup>th</sup> Street 95928
7.	Lon Glazner	1119 Valley Oak Drive
8.	Susan Mason	Box 3036 95927
9.	Jerry Olio	2595 Cactus Avenue

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson; consultant Petra Unger, EDAW. Absent: Commissioner Richard Ober.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**                      None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Chair Walker announced that this is the first of four meetings to review and update the BPMMP. Each is an open work session for BPPC, and public input is encouraged. Each meeting can last up to 2.5 hours. All comments and changes offered by commissioners will be accepted if not challenged.

Meeting times are:

Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. with disc golf discussion highlighted;

Tuesday, October 18 at 6:30 p.m. with cultural resources highlighted;

Wednesday, October 26 at 6:30 p.m.

the regular meeting of October reset for Monday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m.; and a potential meeting on November 14 at 7:00 p.m., if needed.

Chair Walker will designate which section is being discussed, beginning from front of the document to the end. Public will speak first and then Commissioners will comment.

*Spirit of Place*

Josephine Gaurdino wants to add "plant species" to last sentence on page 1-1. Commissioner Barrett would change Spirit of Place to Spirit of the Park.

## *Section 1 Introduction*

O. J. McMillan thinks it is important this document not have inconsistencies such as “currently no developed recreational facilities in Upper Park” at end of page 1-2 when the disc golf course is there.

Randy Abbott pointed out the paraphrased Annie Bidwell deed leaves a quote hanging that should be completed

Lon Glazner thinks the first inconsistency mentioned is appropriate since the disc golf plan must be made in the future.

Josephine Guardino wants to add “natural, recreational and educational” to resources mentioned in 1.1.1 This is a natural resource area and has many plant species as well as wildlife.

Patsy Schutz asked if she can submit comments after tonight. Chair Walker said yes.

Commissioners made comments, additions and corrections to this section.

Commissioner Wood said this is a park and not a preserve.

Commissioner Barrett said our role is to preserve the park and that could even include monitoring the number of people who go there. CARD is for recreation.

Chair Walker said it is a recreation amenity and a natural resource.

Commissioner Mills said to follow the themes of preservation and recreation in a balanced way

Commissioner Lucas wants to better define what land is officially part of the Park, such as the BLM parcel, and clarify the intended use.

## *Section 2. Existing Conditions*

Randy Abbott is happy to see reference in 2.2.1 to zoning designations OS-1 (open space-1) and RCA (Resource Conservation Area) from the General Plan. They are a modern expression of what was historically expressed.

Josephine Guardino said to make this a land management plan with area designations very clear.

Lon Glazner said RCA designation should not eliminate a possible use as long as you can work around the biological resources. We need more environmental studies.

Commissioner Barrett wants to expand the list of regional parks and greenways listed in 2.2.3. Commissioner Lucas said there are conflicting land use designations that are the basis for confusion. We need to make designations very clear and find more tools to fit 3,000 acres. Commissioner Mills said 2.2.4 on page 2-5 acknowledges that BPMMP overrides the General Plan.

Brendan Vieg, Senior Planner, City of Chico, said areas in the park are identified as an RCA area with OS-1 zoning uses. The Zoning Code sets up open space and designates

allowed uses. He will find out if the City has to get an conditional use permit (UP) for some use of city land, the same as citizens need for private land. Some legal non-conforming uses are allowed for areas that have been grandfathered in. Several documents could serve as background for BPPC to use in defining your best judgment for planned use of the Park

### *2.3.2.2 Botanical Resources page 2-18*

Josephine Guardino will add more descriptions on wildlife and plant species to give others information for future decisions on land management. Butte County has 1/10 of the biodiversity of all of North America and citizens should be proud to conserve the Park for natural resources.

Randy Abbott said there is need for protection of sensitive species, but a bigger habitat provides for non-threatened species as well. That could be included in the discussion of wildlife corridors. A history of the Bidwells and what they provided the community should be included as will as that of the Mechoopdas.

Phil Johnson, Audubon Society, has recently discovered a Black Rail in the foothills and would like to add that to the list. Petra Unger will follow up.

Chair Walker will open the next meeting with the disc golf discussion as planned. Further discussion on zoning will follow.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None

### **1. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular adjourned meeting of October 12, 2005.

SIGN-IN SHEET  
OCTOBER 3, 2005

	Name	Address
1.	O. J. McMillan	2040 Vallombrosa Ave
2.	Randy Abbott	1151 East 10 <sup>th</sup> Street
3.	Lon Glazner	1119 Valley Oak
4.	Scott Reimens	1459 E. Lassen #56
5.	Josephine Guardino	PO Box 6 Los Molinos 96055
6.	Patsy Schultz	193 E. Sacramento Ave
7.	Phil Johnson	14548 Blackberry Road 95942
8.		





Commissioners asked questions about course design. Courses are most commonly 18 holes, a short course would attract beginners, allow an acre per hole with a typical fairway width of 30 to 40 feet, a well-defined trail would draw traffic away from the holes, and different uses can coexist with no problem after proper design.

Break from 7:30 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

From the public:

Randy Abbott: this site is on top of a Tuscan formation and other potential uses could be considered. It would be good for other user groups.

Scotty Reimens: this course was there when the land deal was made with BLM and is not a part of Annie's deed.

Jason Sands: most damage to trees is done to those close in by an occasional error.

Mark Bahn: he and his sons are practicing to become pros and have been using the course 200 times a year for several years. Everyone in California has one of these parks.

Christina Aranguren: damage is being done and the area looks bad; how many golfers are we building this for? The parking area could become a night hangout secluded from the highway and out of Chico Police jurisdiction.

Kris Konig: the course has existed for ten years, yet resources thrive there. Mike did a great job of balancing concerns for both sides.

Paul Layman: would promote the longer course, even for beginners; a short course could have a smaller parking lot.

Gregg Payne: more holes have less impact; keep in mind putting this in Lower Park or at least in the valley.

Ann Willmann: takes three girls up there and they carry out trash. There are many passions at work in this town.

Catherine Benjamin: has given her comments to staff. This is adjacent to dangerous cliffs and a liability. Is no course an alternative?

Lance Brogden; there is a big growth in this sport and a course is needed.

Chip Frink: a course has a positive impact on a community; Rotarians are supporting River Bend course in Oroville.

Woody Elliott: It is the right game, but the wrong place. Another location would have better accessibility and not be on such sensitive ground.

Josephine Guardino: soils there are shallow; trees are already damaged and that cannot be mitigated; Upper Park is for enjoying a natural experience and we will lose the wilderness experience.

Lon Grazner: the new design is for only 1% of the park area and offers good protection for resources; find a way to get more people involved to make it nice.

Phil Johnson: 140 year old Blue Oaks are in the area and considered historic; what thought is for the long-term health of the forest? Can new trees grow if existing trees are impacted? How long will it take for soil to come back?

Craig Sanders: roughly 8,000 acres are being preserved in the area under other agencies; recreation value is worth the development.

O.J. McMillan: golf is not consistent with what Upper Park is supposed to be; tournaments are really not compatible. Maintenance would be a burden. What will you say to the next group that wants a piece of the Park for some other use? Others would like to have the resources also.

Commission:

Chair Walker finds this a difficult decision as he works with recreation and enjoys quiet. At least do an EIR to see if effects can be mitigated.

Commissioner Candela thinks this is an opportunity to manage the course and make it fit in the Park since it existed prior to land purchase.

Commissioner Wood likes course plan Alternative A.

Commissioner Barrett said we have to do an EIR before ready to proceed with detailed design elements. He wants to learn more about the designs.

Commissioner Mills wants to go forward with the EIR. His environmental concerns would be addressed there. Select Plan A for the EIR.

Commissioner Lucas has a fear about setting precedence for Upper Park in allowing this course. Change 39 acres of zoning from OS1 to OS2 so all will know it is distinct from other areas in Upper Park. He would like to find a place for a kids' course in Lower Park.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE AN EIR ON ALTERNATIVE A. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. to the next regular adjourned meeting of October 18, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

SIGN IN FOR OCTOBER 12, 2005

	Name	Address
1.	Randy Abbott	
2.	Jane Turney	
3.	Scott Reimens	
4.	Jason Sands	
5.	Mark Bahn	
6.	Christine Aranguren	315 Legion Avenue
7.	Kris Konig	1025 Rushmore
8.	Paul Layman	1156 Filbert Ave
9.	Gregg Payne	1343 Laburnum
10.	Ann Willmann	1116 Valley Oak Drive
11.	Cathie Benjamin	619 oak Street
12.	Lance Brogdon	1255 Neal Dow Ave
13.	Chip Frick	285 La Mirada Ave Oroville 96966
14.	Woody Elliott	287 Pinyon Hills Drive
15.	Josephine Guardino	PO Box 6 Los Molinos 96055
16.	William Glazner	256 East First Street
17.	Phil Johnson	14548 Blackberry Road
18.	Craig Sanders	PO Box 7486 Chico 95927
19.	O. J. McMillan	2040 Vallombrosa Ave

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Stephen Lucas, Michael Candela, David Woods, Richard Ober, and Tom Barrett; Staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson; Consultant Petra Unger.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**                      None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

General Services Director Beardsley reminded BPPC and public the next meetings are on Wednesday, October 26; Monday, November 7; and Monday, November 14. Sections 1 and 2 of the draft have been updated. There will be a track version and a clean version at the end of discussion. Some comments submitted may rate a discussion with City Council.

*Section 2.4 Facilities*

Public comments              None

Commission:

The section about lease holders should explain the City's process for leasing.

2.4.6.1 Fire Protection should include a plan for evacuation.

2.2.4 Include the several accesses to Park that are not just for cars. Estimate the number of parking spots in Upper Park. On-street parking in Lower Park requires four wheels off of the asphalt.

2.4.5.3 Solid Waste City does not compost but grinds up some materials to put back into the Park. Invasive plants are hauled away.

Remove reference to Friends of Bidwell Park website, as that may change.

BPPC has adopted policies on benches and other issues that should be included.

*Section 2.5. through 2.8*

Public comments:

Randy Abbott views volunteer energy as work by persons and money contributions. List funding needs.

Arlene Ward wants a volunteer section that would anticipate monitoring cultural sites. Tribal consultation is becoming a bigger part of City planning. List Mechoopda as a significant stake holder in the park. She will provide Commissioners with more information before the cultural discussion at the October 26 meeting.

Commission:

Provide figures for an ultimate park staff so managers will know limitations in making plans. Park Director Beardsley replied that is included in the Strategic Plan, which is updated every year and goes to Council in January. The Strategic Plan could be added to the draft.

2.6 Volunteers This section is difficult to read and should be rearranged.

2.8.4 Aesthetic Resources should include the Sphere of Influence.

Break from 7:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

*Section 3 Park Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*

Park Director Beardsley said the challenge has always been to determine the balance between recreation and preservation. The premise has been that Bidwell Park is not the primary recreation area for Chico. Is the goal to open the Park to new uses or to keep what we have?

Commission:

Mills said to use letter designations instead of bullets for easier reference.

Barrett is leery of keeping a balance or everyone may claim a piece of the Park. There is only so much that can be done and still sustain it as a park. Other recreation areas now can take the heat off of Bidwell Park

Walker thinks the 1990 Plan is a good foundation for keeping more impact in Lower Park and less in Upper.

Woods thinks BPPC should not restrict more use from a growing community but find better ways to use the facilities.

Public:

Randy Abbott asked BPPC to keep clear what you think is the park's long term use. Make BPMMP something that will apply to the difficult decisions that will come as the city grows and grows.

Josephine Guardino wants to identify on a map exactly what areas will be preserved and what developed. Keep in mind the bigger picture of areas outside Chico that will be served. Write strong language and objectives that are measurable. Most species in Lower Park are non-native and many are invasive. They are creeping into Upper Park. Increase funding for invasive plant removal as volunteers are getting discouraged when seed trees are not removed.

Lon Glazner thinks vast areas are protected so there is no need to set aside more acres for resource conservation. Manage and approve more areas for moderate use.

Karen Laslo said there are not a lot of places for people who want to be quiet and in nature. Our town is getting crowded and more will need a place to get away while travel gets more expensive.

Patsy Schutz said people in the community are saying they are afraid to write a letter. They will be vilified by those who disagree. Seek out the opinion of nonaggressive people. Chair Walker said BPPC reads all letters with respect.

Tom Haithcock said the Nature Center is teaching classes on how to enjoy the Park respectfully. BPPC needs to set guidelines for the rest of the community. What was OK for 50,000 people is not OK for 500,000.

Gregg Payne saw only two people while he was hiking on the Park's main road last Saturday. Dust from Upper Park Road and a forest of star thistles are bigger problems than over-use by humans.

### *Bidwell Park Vision*

Barrett said this is a management plan, not a development plan. He read a document that stated the first vision for the Park upon acceptance of Annie's deed.

Lucas said Annie's deed stated her vision for the land she conveyed and not for what has been acquired since.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO INCLUDE THE RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTANCE FROM 1905 INTO THE APPENDIX. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: MILLS, LUCAS, CANDELA AND WOOD. NOES: WALKER, OBER AND BARRETT.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There is a request to have a specific discussion on trails at a future meeting. Additional meetings were set for November 2 and November 3, beginning at 6:30 p.m. They may be in session longer than 2.5 hours.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. to the next regular adjourned meeting of October 26, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson, Senior Planner Brendan Vieg., and EDAW consultant Petra Unger.

**Public Comments** None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA** None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

The Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) of 1996 is part of the existing Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) and has been used as such. It is to be included in this draft as Appendix K. Tonight it is open for comment and can be amended or accepted as presented.

Arlene Ward, Resources Coordinator for the Mechoopda Tribe, submitted comments to amend several sections of the draft. She said the 1996 document was meant to meet CEQUA at the time, focuses on 700 of the 1,400 acres, and is not as comprehensive as many believe. Sites identified in the Park at that time were meant to be recorded at Native American Information Center, but some of that was not done. The entire park is a district of cultural resource importance and reference to cultural resources should be included in each section of this draft. Mechoopda is a sovereign nation and should be consulted separately from other interested groups. There should be one base map of the Park with overlays for trails, roads, cultural resources, etc. However, some cultural resources are confidential to avoid drawing attention to them. Update pertinent cultural acts and agencies and provide broader measures for protection of sacred sites. The 1996 document is insufficient so an interim plan is needed for sites now known.

Roseville has an interpretive center that could be a model for the deer pen location. It could tell the story of a live community within a proper framework for protection. Or there could be two or three interpretive centers throughout the Park.



Break from 7:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m..

From the public:

Frank Balam, CSUC professor of archeology, said there is a variety of prehistoric and historic sites in the Park, some pristine and others impacted. There is no evaluation of the significance on the sites identified in 1996 by 18 of his students. They need to be located and recorded. There needs to be a more thorough inventory to establish the Park as a district.

Lucy Sperlin said the value is greater than the sum of its parts. Cultural resources encompass all kinds of resources including historic, heritage and others.

Commission:

Chair Walker said Ms. Ward has established communication between tribe and city and made us more aware of cultural resources.

Commissioner Mills understands we are addressing native American resources, but there are others in the Park such as the flume, World of Trees, and Diversion Dam. All could be combined in a section called Cultural and Historical Resources. Make this draft condensed and not redundant. Cultural resources can be a concentrated section of the document or part of all sections, but does not need to be both.

GSD Beardsley recommends Commission proceed with the CRMP and then met to reconcile what the tribe and staff wants to see. More information is needed to make it work. The challenge will be to blend current practices with the expectations of CRMP. There is no obligation beyond the EIR, but this is a new dimension for the Park. Staff is relying on EDAW to inform the City what requirements are legal. When the plan is approved, it will be time to talk about implementation, priorities, and funding.

Further meetings scheduled are:

Wednesday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. in CR1

Thursday, November 3 at 6:30 p.m. in CR 1 with emphasis on Trails Manual

Monday, November 7 at 7:00 in Council Chamber for regular monthly agenda that may include MMP discussion

Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 in Council Chamber (tentative)

Monday, November 14 at 7:00 in Council Chamber

Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular adjourned meeting of November 2, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.



CRMP; reference policies that BPPC has adopted in the past, and describe how the decision was made and where the record is kept; and encourage participation from the public and youth.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO NOT SET PRIORITIES AT THIS TIME.  
COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED 5-2. YES: WOOD, LUCAS, MILLS, CANDELA, AND WALKER. NOES: BARRETT AND OBER.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO LOOK AT PRIORITIES AS POLICY ANNUALLY. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED 7-0.

Commissioners continued review and discussion and agreed on several changes to be made. They would like a way to amend the MMP by adding appendices and text after the draft is approved. The Plan might reference studies CSUC students have done on the Park. Staff could send a letter to appropriate department heads asking them to forward applicable research and suggest areas of study that could be done.

Break 8:15 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

From the public

Randy Abbott still prefers emphasis on preservation over recreation. Friends of Bidwell Park support recreation but would like to know what BPPC regards as appropriate.

Grace Marvin, Sierra Club, amended 3.1.8 funding resources.

Susan Mason amended 3.1.7 design standards

Lon Glazner would like discussion of land use changed from intensive and non-intensive uses to what is appropriate to the infrastructure, such as at Horseshoe Lake. Give support to areas that get the most use.

Commissioner Lucas thinks all parcels should be merged into one legal description since the plan will use the Park as one unit. The exception would be to remove the disc golf parcel from rest of Park and zone it OS2. He supports the course, but not other intensive use in Upper Park.

Commissioner Mills does not see disc golf inconsistent with OS1 and thinks the area also has value as an access to the Park. OS2 could be an empty promise in the future as zoning can be changed.

Chair Walker said the environmental restrictions are the same for OS1 and OS2, though OS2 allows for more intense uses and implies that intent.

Brendan Vieg, Senior Planner, does not think new zoning is needed. The language in the Plan will guide the Park.

Patrick Murphy, Senior Planner suggested the Plan use "shall" to make a strong statement and "should" for suggestions. He read language suggesting a possible principal to interpret future uses.

5. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of November 3, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in CR2.

SIGN-IN SHEET  
NOVEMBER 2, 2005

	Name	Address
1.	Gregg Payne	
2.	Josephine Guardino	
3.	Randy Abbott	
4.	Grace Marvin	
5.	Susan Mason	
6.	Lon Glazner	

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; Consultant Ron Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Richard Ober.

**Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**                      None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Bidwell Park Trails Plan**

Ron Unger, EDAW, gave a slide presentation on the updated trails plan and explained the process. It was decided to take care of the existing trails and add new trails at a later date. Top criteria is providing for recreation, keeping scenic beauty, and protecting resources. Concerns are about thin soils, disc golf course, general overuse, redundant and fall line trails, potential damage to trees near parking lots, safety of people crossing the creek, and leaving the south side natural. Proposals include a paved bike path parallel to Upper Park Road, a new trail from parking Lot A to Horseshoe Lake, reconstructing Jeep Trail with switchbacks, and closing Upper Park Road to parking lot U while upgrading lot T for better turn around. Designation of South Park Drive is still being discussed.

Horseshoe Lake area has high impact and is used in various ways. A plan for the area from parking Lot B to Monkey Face treats it as a park within the park. Proposal is to clarify trail access from the parking areas, add picnic areas near parking, plant trees, and build an all-weather trail around Horseshoe Lake.

From the public:

Gregg Payne - would like a connective trail down the cliff from the disc golf course to the creek and a paved road to Ten Mile House Road for use of safety and handicap vehicles.

Thin soils can be replaced; it is easy to refurbish impacted trails.

Judy Norton - having one-way traffic on the north side is limiting access so provide turnouts along East 8<sup>th</sup> street for access to picnic sites. Upper Park road should be closed in winter.

Kris Koenig - if parking Lot C is expanded, be sure to consider the light flow around the observatory.

Paul Lehman - there is redundance, but consider the need by different users and difficulty.  
Lon Glazner - a significant plan for the Lake should allow for expansion of the observatory; focus on trails near parking areas.  
Randy Abbott - certain sections of our trails are widening because of thin soil on hard pan. There were complaints on maintenance work so identify problems and find funding.  
Brian Slickerd - put together a plan and have a way to contain it and educate the community. Consider all users as parallel trails fit different needs.  
Mary Ann Jennings - too many things in the plan look artificial; leave things as natural as possible in looks.  
Alan Mendoza - leads 60 hikes a year for Sierra Club. Consider wildlife by limiting times for trail use and size of groups allowed in. Upper Park needs more rangers.  
Mark Cooper - trails are made where people want to go so how can they be closed? Educate and mobilize the community to do maintenance.  
Frank Rosini - better trail signage would help. Consider opening Ten Mile House Road year round and make it a loop with Highway 32.  
Scott MacLaren - make the web page more prominent; let the public know what facilities are there and who is affiliated.

Commissioner Candela - there may be some concern about providing access to the Nature Preserve on the north side instead of as it is now.  
Commissioner Mills - there are too many points to discuss at this time. Consider use of safety vehicles on roads that connect to Ten Mile House Road.  
Commissioner Lucas - some of the unofficial trails will show up again if they are closed because people want to use them, but a good network will help.  
Commissioner Wood - proposed trails will be studied by EIR and won't be built if not alright. Trails to be closed will come back to BPPC for discussion.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO DEFER TALKING ABOUT CLOSING LOWER PARK DRIVE TO ANOTHER TIME. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of November 7, 2005 in the Council Chamber at 7:00 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 7, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of September 26, 2005**

**2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 3, 2005**

**3. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 12, 2005**

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Chair Walker.

**4. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 18, 2005**

**5. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 26, 2005**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1, 2, 4, AND 5 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

**Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 12, 2005**

Chair Walker questioned a word in middle of page two. It was determined that the correct word was transcribed. ***OR CHANGED THE WORD***

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED(***OR AMENDED***). COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0.

## 2. Review and Discussion of the Bidwell Park Municipal Golf Course

Bidwell Park Golf Course, Inc. (BPGC) has a lease with the City that will expire in 2012. They have prepared a General Improvement Plan that addresses performance standards, capital improvements and a financial projection to 2012. They are also talking with American Golf, the current management service for the course, to ascertain their level of interest and participation in future plans.

Ken Petrucelli, President of BPGC, asked if the City wants to keep the relationship they have had, and if so, can the lease agreement be adjusted so they can make long-term plans for the future. Issues to consider are an extension of 20 years to provide adequate time to finance costly proposed improvements and setting a new financial policy covering both course fees and the annual fee paid to the City.

City fee is based on number of rounds per year, which was 80,000 in the selected year but in now 60,000. Under the current lease, rent will increase from \$31,000 to \$66,000.

The biggest capital improvement would be replacement of the old irrigation system at a cost of just under one million dollars. There is an impound account of approximately \$145,000 that is restricted to purchase of equipment, and the equipment is now in good shape.

Chair Walker said American Golf gets about 93% of gross proceeds, which would be at \$850,000. He asked Ken to find out what their annual costs are.

From the public:

Randy Abbott said unpicked fruit from the olive trees on the southern edge of the course attract fruit flies and might have to come out. Mitigation for road alignment called for tree plants which have failed and should be planted again. Look at organic turf maintenance instead of chemical treatment. There could be the potential to have disc golf and ball golf on the same property, as others are doing. Lon Glazner said sharing the course is generally done at a course that is failing economically. Disc golf courses in nature are better than ones manicured. Christine Aranguren thinks the loss of 20,000 rounds a year is important. She wants to hear more about sharing disc and ball golf. Elizabeth Devereaux saw a movie called Gleaners and wonders if gleaning would work for the olives on the course.

City staff, BPGC, and American Golf will continue discussions. GSD Beardsley will report to BPPC with any specific proposals.



**3. Review and Consideration of the City Plaza Art Project**

Greg Melton, landscape architect, showed plans for the last section of the park plan. It is a courtyard that opens onto Broadway. The main focus is elm sculptures from the original elms, a concrete seat wall, chess tables, and dogwoods at each corner. He wants to complete the design process quickly to fit its construction into the existing building schedule.

Elizabeth Devereaux, artist, said this will be named Elm Court to honor the original elms. Old trunks were saved and will be used by artists who will be commissioned to do sculptures. There will be six or seven fixed tables and stools in the court made from cast concrete with variations of surface, shape, material and color.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PLAN AS PRESENTED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0

**4. Report on Neighborhood Park Projects**

GSD Beardsley reported the consultant is working on Baroni Park. He would like to take consultant's report to Council in February and recommend taking a vote from residents to ask about assessments and construction projects.

The next meeting for Highland Park/Ceres is December 7. A preliminary plan should come to BPPC in February, then go to Council.

Park land has been at 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Norte Dame for a long time. City has now sold three acres for senior housing and that will provide funding to go ahead with getting a design.

CARD will discuss DeGarmo Park with Council this week.

Commissioner Tom Barrett arrived at 8:10 p.m.

**5. Review and Consideration of the Bidwell Park Trail Plan**

Commissioner Mills noted there will be two trail classes - official and social.

Official trails will be identified by a name. He would like to have a fund for trail maintenance such as the annual funding for art. Many problems would go away if the trails were well maintained. Water does more damage than use.

Commissioner Ober saw a reference to "sensitive resource" in trail planning and asked if a CEQA definition is used or should the City define it.

Commissioner Barrett asked for a definition of Official and Social trails and a trail corridor. He recently saw students of a class running wherever they wanted down

fall lines. That promotes erosion but there is no law against it now. There are two City bike path maps that could be included in this document. Park paths could integrate to City paths.

Commissioner Wood thinks we need all of the trails we have. There are now approximately 80 miles, but it is recommended to cut that to approximately 40. That would put more people on fewer trails. If all trails were not being used, they would heal over and not be there. Make changes to fix them but do not reduce total milage.

GSD will bring this section back for another look, as there were many changes.

## **5. REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Director's Report**

There has been a hold up on work at the rifle range, but staff is hoping to open the parking lot by the end of this month.

BPPC has discussed the issue of adult supervision for children six years of age and under at Sycamore Pool. Staff is looking at alternatives other than changing 12r's.

New fencing at One Mile is completed

There is nothing new on funding the dam at One Mile.

**2. Urban Forester's Report** Received and filed.

**3. Monthly Reports** Received and filed.

**4. Incident Reports** Received and filed.

**5. Correspondence** None

## **6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Michael Reilly asked when lights will go on along Peterson Drive at Doe Mill, as well as the lights at the pillar on the north side. UF Boza said the lights are installed on the north side but the problem is getting the sleeves across the Creek because of rubble on the south bank. He is now looking at having a complete power supply on the north side and checking costs. Staff will get Mr. Reilly answers within the week.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to Thursday, November 10, 2005, in the Council Chambers to continue discussion of BPMMP section three.

SIGN - IN SHEET  
NOVEMBER 7, 2005

	Name	Address
1.	Ken Petrucelli	19 Lower Lake Court Chico
2.	Randy Abbott	1151 East 10 <sup>th</sup> Street
3.	Lon Glazner	1119 Valley Oak Drive
4.	Christine Aranguren	315 Legion Ave
5.	Elizabeth Devereaux	246 Honey Run Road
6.	Michael Reilley	678 Vallombrosa Way

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Russell Mills, David Wood, and Michael Candela; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardseley, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy nad Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Stephen Lucas

**2. Public Comments**

Randy Abbott noted the EIR would have 45 days for comments after completion. It would be better to release it after February 15 to avoid CSUC holidays.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**           None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**           None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

*Section 3.1.2 Land Uses*

From the public:

Randy Abbott - Consider the need for parks throughout Chico and what types of recreation they may support. The National Resources Management Plan is based on habitat types. That would be an effective way to manage exceptional habitat areas such as One Mile, golf course, and Horseshoe Lake.

Commission reviewed, discussed and amended wording on goals and objectives, surrounding land uses, regional context, and acquisitions.

Commissioner Mills said all of *3.1.2.4 Visitor Uses* had been said some where else. Ms. Unger said some activities were covered on the zone specific page. GSD Beardseley said this might be combined with *3.1.3.6 Recreation Resources*. Staff will look at it and bring back revisions to BPPC.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO DELETE ALL OF 3.1.2.4 VISITOR USES.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**           None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 to the meeting of November 14, 2005 at 7:00 pm.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, Tom Barrett, and Russell Mills; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, Administrative Secretary Janice Heckereson.

**2. Public Comments**      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**      None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

GSD Beardsley submitted changes made after the last meeting. The overall vision of the Plan is for vision with flexibility. Next regular meeting will be on November 28, and Master Management Plan meetings on November 17 and the week of December 5.

Senior Planner Murphy wrote out ways to help clarify issues and be consistent in language without changing the content. He suggested wording from the zoning ordinance that would fit well into the Plan, such as the use of “shall” and “should” to designate difference of intention. GSD could make minor interpretive changes to the draft and more complicated interpretations would come to BPPC. Specific uses and intent in the Park would be divided into three zones with more specific uses possibly designated in a particular area within the broader zone.

*Section 3.1.3 Park Resources*

Randy Abbott sees a lot of things in the draft from the 1990 plan, some from various participants at CAC, and some from EDAW. We need to take some steps, such as an EIR, before making decisions. Perhaps use expertise from the community and CSUC to get more information for assessments.

Lon Glazner said the definition of biological resources can differ with different projects. We need a concrete method of determining what they are.

Megan Thomas agrees the whole plan needs to be written with “shall” and “will”. You are building in discretion and options.

Gregg Payne referred to terrestrial wildlife section. Draining the pond to eradicate bull

frogs is a bad idea as it effects other wildlife, but frogs would still be in the creek.  
Frank Rossini wants an explicit definition for each resource.

Commission considered, discussed and amended:

Section 3.1.3.1 Physical Resources and

Section 3.1.3.2 Biological Resources

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. to Thursday, November 17, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in CR1.

#### SIGN IN SHEET

1. Randy Abbott
2. Lon Glazner
3. Megan Thomas
4. Gregg Payne
5. Frank Rossini

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober and Stephen Lucas, Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley. Senior Planner Brendan Vieg, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. ADJOURNMENT**

For lack of a quorum, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to November 28, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present at roll call: Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; Consultant Petra Unger, Staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, Senior Planner Brendan Vieg, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Special Recognition**

Chair Walker presented a certificate of appreciation to Jon Aull as leader for students who volunteered to work on Scour and Devour. They volunteered about 500 hours to take invasive plants out of the Park.

Chair Walker introduced Tom Barrett and Anne Schwab, co-chairs for the Bidwell Park Centennial Committee, in recognition for all the work volunteers did to celebrate the anniversary of 100 years since Annie Bidwell deeded the Park to Chico. They presented certificates of appreciation to Jennifer Patten, Jeanne Boze, Stewart King, Lollie DeYoung, Susan Mason, Barbara Kopicki, Jennifer Oman and Gayle Womack for their contributions. GSD Beardsley received a gift for his part in making the Centennial a big success.

**3. Public Comments**

Randy Abbot referred to a letter to the editor published in the Enterprise Record today. Michael Jones wrote that Friends of Bidwell Park reneged on a compromise they worked out with him, but they have not done that. He wanted to respond to what the public reads.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 2, 2005**
- 2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 3, 2005**
- 3. Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 7, 2005**
- 4. Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 10, 2005**



- 5. **Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 14, 2005**
- 6. **Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 17, 2005**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None

2. **Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Commission was given a copy of Section 3, pages 3-10 to 3-26, containing staff changes to reflect use of active tense and “should” and “shall”. The intent was to change language use but not any of the meaning. Chair Walker suggested that, to move things along, they could make motions to approve by section if it was found to be adequate.

Commissioner Barrett said he has comments to make whether or not a section is approved by the majority. He has worked from the original version because that is the one the public has.

Commissioner Mills said he was told we would not use this version tonight and he has not read it. It would be irresponsible to vote on something he has not studied.

GSD Beardsley will read each sentence and point out the changes made.

*3.1.3.2 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES*

*Natural Communities*

*Implementation Strategies and Guidelines page 3-14*

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

*Plants Objectives Page 3-14*

Commission changed “wet meadows” to “natural seasonal wetlands” and asked to add the location site to information on sensitive plants.

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO ACCEPT THIS SECTION WITH CHANGES.  
COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0-1.  
COMMISSIONER MILLS ABSTAIN.

*Implementation Strategies and Guidelines page 3-15*

Commission changed language to be consistent with former changes and made other additions and changes.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO CHANGE BULLET SEVEN AS SUGGESTED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-2. YES:  
WALKER, MILLS, BARRETT AND OBER. NOES: LUCAS AND WOOD.

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REST OF THIS SECTION AS  
DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED  
6-0.

*Terrestrial Wildlife Objectives page 3-15*

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO CHANGE BULLET THREE AS SUGGESTED.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-3. YES: LUCAS,  
WOOD AND WALKER; NOES: MILLS, BARRETT AND OBER.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO CHANGE BULLET THREE AS AMENDED AND  
INCLUDE IT IN NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION. COMMISSIONER OBER  
SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. YES: WALKER, OBER, BARRETT,  
MILLS, AND LUCAS. NOES: WOOD

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED REMAINDER OF SECTION.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

*Terrestrial Wildlife Implementation Strategies and Guidelines page 3-16*

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO COMBINE BULLETS FIVE AND SIX.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

Break from 8:30p.m. to 8:40 p.m.  
Commissioner Lucas left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

*Aquatic Resources Objectives page 3-16*

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO MOVE THE LAST BULLET TO HYDROLOGY SECTION. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

*Aquatic Resources Implementation Strategies and Guidelines page 3-17*

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO STRIKE BULLET ONE, MOVE BULLET SEVEN TO ONE, AND ADD A BULLET TO ADDRESS ROCK DAMS CREATED BY PUBLIC. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

*Invasive Weeds Objectives page 3-17*

Commissioner agreed to change “weeds” to “plants” throughout.

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO APPROVE SECTION AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

The next draft discussion will begin with Prescribed Fire Management, page 3-18.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director’s Report**

- ▼ the wall for the bandstand was poured in City Plaza today; all work may be finished by mid-April
- ▼ there is a Highland/Ceres Park meeting December 7, 2005
- ▼ an additional tree crew position has been approved
- ▼ staff is disappointed at what is going on at Humboldt Neighborhood Park (skateboard) and will address graffiti problems with an art project for the restrooms to stop the graffiti.

**2. Urban Forester’s Report**

Planting season is starting.

**3. Monthly Reports** Received and filed.

**4. Incident Reports** Received and filed

**5. Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Tom Barrett said there are some stocking stuffers left from Centennial sales. Any money remaining will be split between the Chico Creek Nature Center and the Bidwell Park Endowment fund. A donor has given \$5,000 and will give another \$5,000 if it is matched.

The regular December meeting is set for December 19. Other Master Plan meetings will be set for December 13, 14 and 22, 2005.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of December 13, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Michael Candela, Richard Ober and David Wood; Consultant Petra Unger; and staff: General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Brendan Vieg, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*3.1.3.3 Cultural Resources*

GSD Beardsley said language in this section will be blended with written suggestions provided by Arlene Ward of the Mechoopda Indian Tribe. He read through each sentence. Language was changed and it was agreed to add a guideline asking that cultural resources be inventoried by qualified people.

Commissioner Russell Mills arrived at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT BOTH THE OBJECTIVES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND GUIDELINES AS AMENDED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

*Ethnographic Background*

Strike bullet one and amend bullet two of Implementation Strategies and Guidelines.

*Archaeological Sites*

Accepted as presented.

*3.1.3.4 Interpretive and Educational Program*

Move bullet three to become bullet one, as it is most important.

*Facilities*

*Special Events*

### *Rules and Regulations*

These sections were discussed and amendments agreed upon.

Senior Planner Murphy submitted ten more pages of the draft with updated language for consideration. “Objectives” give an overview of each section and the use of “should” or “shall” is placed under “Implementation Strategies and Guidelines” for the stated objectives.

#### *3.1.3.5 Aesthetic Resources*

From the public, Randy Abbott said the 1990 Plan agreed aesthetic areas were to be identified, but it was never done. Much of the public delights in the fact that Upper Park does not have highly developed areas and considers Upper Park a kind of aesthetic resource in that way.

### *Visual Resources and Scenic Characteristics*

#### *Viewsheds*

#### *Nightsky*

These sections were discussed and amendments agreed upon.

#### *3.1.3.6 Recreational Resources*

From the public, Lon Glazner heard consultants say how important the CAC meetings were, but some of the issues from there did not make it into the plan. For one, the issue of an alternative and/or additional site for disc golf should be addressed in the draft.

Randy Abbott said the 1990 Plan mission was to provide a variety of recreational experience. The new plan say a “wide variety”. What does the BPPC have in mind regarding their desire to open the door to new development. You need to be more specific on where you would go and on what you would base your decisions.

The Commissioners began discussing the definitions provided for developed facilities, intensive uses and non-intensive uses. After many ideas were exchanged, it was agreed to do more study on each definition and continue the discussion at the next meeting tomorrow.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of December 14, 2005.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Richard Ober, Russell Mills, Michael Candela and David Wood; Consultant Petra Unger; and staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Brandon Veig, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Commissioners Stephen Lucas and Tom Barrett.

**2. Public Comments**

Paul Lehman, of Chico Mountain Bikers, read an article saying a large amount of money from gas tax fund would become available to bikers in the next few years. He provided GSD Beardsley with information on obtaining the funding. He is also looking into maintenance of the Vita Course.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**           None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**           None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Commission continued consideration of the definitions for Developed Facilities, Intensive Uses, and Non-Intensive Uses. Commissioner Mills asked to strike paragraph two of Developed Facilities and to add some wording to Intensive Uses to make it clear that intensive use does not have to involve disturbance of a natural area, but is aimed at halting inappropriate use. Mitigation is for non-intensive use, but providing facilities is for intensive use, however small the improvement.

Commissioner Ober thinks this needs to say what BPPC encourages and what it does not - both permit and deny.

Commissioner Wood does not want developed facilities to sound like it is bad in disturbing natural resources. It should also say such facilities can be used for enjoyment.

These defined terms were not used until Section 3.2 "Zone-Specific Goals..." on page 3-39 so could be moved to just before that section. Commission will consider the language again at that time.

Commission agreed with Consultant Unger's suggestion that all definitions be put into a glossary.

3.1.3.6 *Recreational Resources* page 3-24

*Recreational Activities*

*objectives* Take out bullet six because it is already a stated goal; rearranged the order of objectives; add a bullet to deal with user conflicts.

*Implementation strategies and guidelines* Move bullet three to Education section 3.1.3.4; add a guideline to support dealing with user conflicts. Commissioner Candela suggested meeting quarterly with user groups as need arises to set priorities for uses.

*Trails* Discussed and agreed to amendments to *objectives* and to *implementation strategies and guidelines*.

3.1.3 *Park Resources*

Strike "levels" from title of "Patterns and Levels of Recreational Use"

This section is to insure quality of recreational activities and monitor the intensity of use impacts. Some language was changed.

3.1.4 *Facilities*

From the public, Randy Abbott said keep in mind that trails could be considered facilities and that minimum facilities are good for the park.

3.1.4.1 *Community Facilities*

3.1.4.2 *Restrooms*

3.1.4.3 *Recreation Facilities*

*Playgrounds*

*Golf Course*

Discussed and agreed on amendments to *objectives* and to *implementation strategies and guidelines*.

*Potential Future Disc Golf Course*

This section is being revised.

*Equestrian Center*

*Swimming Areas*

*Picnic Tables*

*Benches*

Commission discussed and agreed on amendments to *objectives* and to *implementation strategies and guidelines*.



*ADA Accessibility*

Commissioner Candela asked for a copy of the outdoor accessibility guidelines before he makes his decisions.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. to the next regular meeting of December 19, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2005

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

**Present:** Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Michael Candela, Richard Ober, David Wood, Tom Barrett; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, Senior Planner Brendan Vieg and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.  
**Absent:** Commissioner Stephen Lucas

**2. Public Comments**

Arlene Ward, of Mechoopda Indian Tribe, submitted a letter of interest for investigating the possibility of an interpretive center on the grounds of the former deer pens.

Blair Snyder, of the Chico Rod and Gun Club, asked staff to keep in mind the club's special events when giving out permits to the public so there won't be conflicts over use of the parking lot.

Jerry Olan read the term "wild" describing the Park in the newspaper and thinks that is better than "carnival"; the observatory should have been put somewhere else; those houses are still there and obstructing the viewshed and they never should have been built where they are.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of November 28, 2005**

Commissioner Candela removed this item from the Consent Agenda.

**2. Approve Permit and Application for Public Use from Balls Edge Concerts for 2006 Concert Series for Various Saturday Night Concerts May 13 to October 29, 2006 - City Plaza**

**3. Application and Permit from Chico Running Club for a Run/Walk Event on March 4, 2006 - One Mile**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 2 AND 3 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

- 3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None  
**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda  
Minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of November 28, 2005**

Commissioner Candela was not at the November 28, 2005 meeting and wished to abstain.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2005. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0-1. YES: WALKER, MILLS, BARRETT, OBER, AND WOOD. NOES: NONE. ABSTAIN: CANDELA.

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*ADA Accessibility*

At the last meeting, Commissioner Candela requested the Outdoor Accessibility Guidelines provided by the Architecture Transportation Barriers Compliance Board. He was provided with the updated guidelines tonight and will review them for discussion at the next meeting. All further references to ADA accessibility in this document will encompass all guidelines as they are updated.

*3.1.4.4 Circulation and Access*

Public Comments      None

*Goal* - approved

*Objectives* -

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ADD “WITH EXCEPTION FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS” TO BULLET TWO. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-3. YES: MILLS, OBER AND CANDELA. NOES: BARRETT, WALKER AND WOOD.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO STRIKE BULLET TWO. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-3. YES: CANDELA, WOOD AND WALKER. NOES: BARRETT, OBER AND MILLS.

Commissioner Mills suggested adding a new objective stating “roadways should provide for non-motorized recreational uses where appropriate”. Commission agreed.

*Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*

Commissioner Mills suggested adding pavement and other traffic controls should be provided for non-motorized recreations, e.g. wheelchairs, skates, when appropriate. Commission agreed.

Commissioner Mills suggested adding “access points to the park for non-motorized use should provide adequate sight distance for safe entrance and exit.” Commission agreed.

Commissioner Mills suggested adding “a measure for unpaved roads should be considered to reduce dust generation.” It was agreed to add that item as a strategy under Air Quality in 3.1.3.1.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO CHANGE “TOLL BOOTHS. . .SHALL BE AVOIDED” TO “SHOULD BE AVOIDED” IN THE LAST BULLET. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. YES: MILLS, OBER, WALKER, BARRETT, CANDELA. NOES: WOOD.

Commissioner Barrett suggested including an objective to reduce vehicle use and encourage car pooling for special events in the Park, an objective to encourage trolley service during the summer when the University trolley is not being used, and an objective to encourage a City Transit bus route around the Park. GSD Beardsley suggested wording like “consider or investigate public transportation to and within the Park”. Staff will gather information regarding these objectives and report to BPPC.

Commissioner Barrett suggested adding an objective to eliminate motorized vehicles and pedestrian conflicts on roadways and trails. It was decided there are priorities set for who has right of way on trails and things are going well now.

#### *Bridges*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and accepted

#### *Access Points*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and accepted

#### *Parking*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and accepted

#### *ADA Accessibility*

This will be discussed at the next meeting after review of the guidelines.

### *3.1.4.5 Utilities and Services*

From the public, Randy Abbott said improved cell phone access implies new standards being built which were not approved by Council.

*Goal, objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* discussed and approved

#### *Telephone Lines*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and accepted

#### *Internet and Cell Phone Access*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and approved  
This section embraces the knowledge that more technology is coming in the future.

#### *Lighting*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and approved  
Commissioner Barrett will provide staff with standards for night time lighting and another document from Dark Sky Association to reduce light pollution.

#### *Other Utilities*

*Objectives Implementation Strategies and Guidelines* amended and approved

## **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Director's Report**

- ▼ the parking lot at rifle range is open and in full operation
- ▼ work at the Plaza has halted because of the rain; next will be to form the dome and lift it into place
- ▼ Highland/Ceres master plan will come to BPPC at January meeting
- ▼ three meetings have been scheduled to start the First and Verbena restoration project; 3,000 notices are being sent out
- ▼ BPPC's viewshed proposal goes before Council tomorrow. City Manager recommends it be referred to Internal Affairs Committee

### **2. Urban Forester's Report**

Linda Sheppard has been hired as a full-time, permanent Landscape Inspector and the City has authorized an additional tree crew member.

3. **Incident Reports** Received and filed.
4. **Correspondence** A letter from Karen Laslo.

## 6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

GSD Beardsley announced that Urban Forester Boza will be retiring as of April 28, 2006, after 15 years in the position. Recruitment for the new Urban Forester will be held next month.

Commissioner Barrett said the Bidwell Park Endowment Fund has received a donation of \$10,000 with \$5,000 to be matched. Today the fund has received \$6,500. He also reported that last Saturday there was a big tournament at the disc golf course, sponsored by a Redding radio station. There were cash prizes, big posters around, and the area was overrun with people damaging saturated grounds. Since the course is not official, there was no permit required. He is disappointed the local disc golf supporters know what they can do there, and yet allowed the event. GSD Beardsley said this situation is unacceptable.

Chair Walker thanked all who have been working so hard on the Master Management Plan process. GSD Beardsley offered several available dates to meet in January. It was agreed to meet on January 9, 23, and 25, 2006 for MMP. The regular monthly meeting is on January 30, 2006, when a new Chair and Vice-Chair will be selected.

## 7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. to the next regular meeting of January 9, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.